THE

Theatrical Observer;

AND

Daily Bills of the Play.

"Nothing extenuate, nor set down aught in malice."

No. 1555 *Wednesday, Nov.* 29, 1826. *Price* 1*d.*

☞ When going to the Play, Ask for *The Theatrical Observer.*

THE KING.—It is with unfeigned pleasure that we announce His Majesty's gracious intention of visiting Covent Garden to-morrow evening, when *Oberon*, and *The Scape-Goat* will be performed. He will also honor Drury Lane by his presence on Friday evening, when he has commanded the Opera of *The Devil's Bridge*, and the Farce of *Love, Law, and Physic*, in which Mr. Liston will appear as *Lubin Log*, Mr. Harley, as *Flexible*, and Mr. Edwin, as *Andrew*. On the announcement of the above, last night, at both houses, it was cheered from all parts of the Theatres.

Covent Garden Theatre.

Oberon was performed last night to a very good house.—It was received during the evening with merited applause, and has seldom been heard with more effect.

Drury Lane Theatre.

The School for Scandal of last night did not prove attractive—the house being very poorly attended. *The White Lady* followed; the overture, and other parts of the music, were much applauded during its performance.

The state of theatrical affairs in the country is generally as bad as it can well be;—even at Brighton, with all the enterprise and energy of the manager, the season is likely to prove ruinous. The decline of a taste for theatrical representations may justly be regretted, as the drama is not merely important to the literature of a nation, but is almost the only intellectual release from the dull realities of life, to a large portion of the labouring class of the community, the only source of interest and excitement of which they can partake in common with the more cultivated of their countrymen. To them it is the poetry of existence, and no one who has witnessed the applause from the humbler attendants on a play, when some lofty or generous feeling has been expressed, will be disposed to estimate lightly the importance of the stage, merely considered in this partial and exclusive view. We will hope that the little encouragement which our provincial theatres are receiving may be attributed to temporary causes, which however are unfortunately of sufficient duration to inflict much distress upon those whose labour and talents deserve a better recompence. The country theatres are the nurseries of the London, and from them we must receive, if at all, the supply of adequate performers for the metropolitan boards.

THEATRICAL RECOLLECTIONS.—The charge to a performer for the house on his benefit, was, in Mr. Garrick's time, £60; the charge now, at both winter theatres, is upwards of £200. The highest weekly salary was then twelve pounds, which was the sum the inimitable Garrick received from the treasury. Actors and singers at that period, instead of riding in their own carriages, walked on foot, and many of them followed trades and professions. Packer was a saddler, in Vigo-lane, near Burlington-gardens; Parsons, and Burton, landscape-painters; Aicken kept a hosier's shop in York-street, Covent-garden; Davis, a bookseller's, in Great Russell-street; Bransby, a hatter's, in Shire-lane; Mrs. Pritchard, the Mrs. Siddons of her day, a masquerade warehouse; John and Robert Palmer, in the morning, in the early part of their lives, went round the town to paste up the posting bills, and the former was, in the evening, a favorite performer, and so general an actor, that he is said to have studied more MS. parts during his theatrical life, than would have loaded a cart drawn by two horses; Dibden was one of the carpenters of the house: and the laugh-provoking Tom Weston was, to the day of his death, one of the turn-spits in the Royal kitchen at St. James's. The theatres at the above period were of so moderate a size, that every part of the audience could distinctly hear and see. Mr. Garrick frequently asked his treasurer Johnson, (who was, by the bye, the best *Gibby*, in the *Wonder*, that ever appeared on the stage, and the only character he ever played) if the receipts of the house amounted to "three figures," meaning £100; yet, with such moderate returns the theatres flourished, and the proprietors realised ample fortunes.

Fashionable Exhibitions.—Open Daily.

DIORAMA, Regent's Park.—Two New Views; the interior of Roslyn Chapel, painted by M. Daguerre, and the City of Rouen, painted by Mr. Bouton, with various Effects of Light and Shade.—Open daily from Ten till Four.—N. B. Fine weather is not essential for seeing the present Views, as the Sunshine is produced with equal effect on the most Cloudy Day.

PANORAMA, Leicester Square—MADRID is now open in the Large Circle; this View comprises all that is interesting in that celebrated City:—also, a View of MEXICO, upwards of two centuries the Capital of the Spanish Settlement in America.—Admittance to each One Shilling.

The New Moving Panorama, 135, Oxford Street—*The Bombardment of Algiers*, with Two additional Views and a minute Description of each revolving View, accompanied by a Military Band.—Open from 10 till 4, & from 6 till 10.—Saloon. 2s. Amphitheatre, 1s. Back range, 6d. Half-price for Children to Saloon.

TALMA.—Busts, in plastic marble, of this celebrated and distinguished actor, in the character of *Sylla*, taken from an original Picture by Picot, are now for sale and inspection at the Exhibition of the BATTLE OF POICTIERS, 209, Regent-street.

Mr. FINN's Fancy Glass-working Exhibiton, in Miniature, displaying the Art of Modelling and Working, Removed from the Strand, to 164, Regent Street.

Miss LINWOOD's celebrated Pictures in Needle-work, Leicester-square.

ROYAL THEATRES—Private Boxes for all the Theatres, and Admissions for the season; a splendid Stage Box at Drury, for eight Persons, £2 2s. to be had nightly—CHARLES WRIGHT, next the King's Theatre, Opera Colonade, Hay Market—*Fine Sparkling Champaign* 63*s*.

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All Communications must be post paid.—Printing in General.
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Theatre Royal, Covent Garden.

This Evening, an Historical Drama, called

DEAF & DUMB.

Theodore, Miss J. SCOTT,
D'Arlemont.....Mr WARDE,
St Alme, Mr C. KEMBLE,
Del'Epée.....Mr YOUNG,
Pierre, Mr POWER, Franval, Mr SERLE,
Dupré, Mr BARTLEY, Phillippe, Mr HENRY,
Dominique, Mr BLANCHARD,
Etienne, Mr TURNOUR, Charles, Mr GREY,
Madame Franval.....Mrs GLOVER,
Marianne, (with a Song) Miss C A W S E,
Claudine, Mrs WESTON.

To conclude with the Melo Drama of

The Miller & his Men.

Grindoff, Mr FARLEY,
Count Frederick Friberg, Mr HORREBOW,
Karl.....Mr BLANCHARD,
Kelmar, Mr CHAPMAN, Kreutz, Master BARKER,
Lothair, Mr DURUSET,
Cobourg. Mr TETT, Lindoff, Mr LEY,
Riber & Golotz, Mess. EVANS, and MEARS,
Zingra, Mr J. ISAACS,
Claudine, Mrs VINING, Lauretta, Miss HENRY,
Ravina, Mrs FAUCIT.

To-morrow, By Command of his Majesty, Oberon, & The Scape Goat.

The Music in Oberon, Peveril of the Peak, The Oracle, and The Death-Fetch,
Is published at The Royal Harmonic Institution, 246, Regent Street.

The Music in the admired Comic Opera of The Two Houses of Grenada,
Is published by F. T. Latour, No. 50, New Bond Street.

The Music of the Bavarian Girl's Song,
'Buy a Broom,' with a Portrait of Mad. Vestris
(In Character) is published by Mayhew & Co. 17, Old Bond Street.

XUM

Theatre Royal, Drury Lane.

This Evening, the Opera of The

Castle of Andalusia.

Don Alphonso, Mr BRAHAM,
Pedrillo, Mr HARLEY, Spado, Mr J. RUSSELL,
Don Scipio, Mr GATTIE,
Don Fernando.....Mr HORN,
Don Cæsar, Mr BEDFORD, Sanguino, Mr O.SMITH
Don Juan, Mr HUGHES,
Calvette, Mr C. Jones, Rapino, Mr Sheriff,
Philippo, Mr Maxwell, Vasquez, Mr Honnor,
Lorenza, Mrs W. GEESIN,
Catelina, Miss A. TREE, Isabella, Mrs HARLOWE,
Victoria, Miss GRADDON.

After which,

THE SPECTRE.

Frederick, Mr NOBLE, Baron Von Fripts, Mr BLANCHARD,
Ambrose, Mr HOWELL,
Myrtile, Miss MACDONALD, Mad Bertrand, Mrs FIELD,
Louisa, Mrs NOBLE,

After which, the Farce of

Monsieur Tonson.

Mr Thompson, Mr THOMPSON,
Jack Ardourly, Mr YOUNGE, Useful, Mr COMER,
Monsieur Morbleau, Mr GATTIE,
Tom King, Mr BROWNE, Rusty, Mr YARNOLD,
Nap, the Watchman, Mr O. SMITH,
Adolphine de Courcy, Miss NICOL,
Madame Bellegarde, Mrs HARLOWE,
Mrs Thompson, Mr KNIGHT.

To-morrow, John Buzby, with Faustus.

WINE INSPIRES US—AND FIRES US!—*The Beggar's Opera.*

THE LOVERS of the Drama, may have Superior Wines and Spirits, at very reduced Prices, by applying to THE LONDON AND WESTMINSTER WINE AND SPIRIT COMPANY, 16, Strand, near Northumberland House.